

**TIDEWATER REGIONAL
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
JANUARY 24, 2006
MINUTES**

PRESENT

Mary Butler, LHRC Member
Christopher Boyd, LHRC Member
Marge House, LHRC Member
Debra Goldstein, Senior Administrator, The Pines
Rhonda Burrell, Human Rights Advocate, The Pines
Fran Neaves, ABS PI/Outcomes Coordinator, Alternative Behavioral Services
Reginald T. Daye, Regional Advocate, DMHMRSAS
Henry Hopkins, Supervisor, Home Based Care, First Home Care
Sara Smith, Clinical Director, Group Homes, First Home Care
Heather Fisher, Director of Nursing, Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center
Evelyn Brown, LHRC Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Renee Edwards, LHRC Member

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Local Human Rights Committee meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Christopher Boyd.

II. CANDIDATE INTERVIEW

The new candidate for membership to the Tidewater Regional LHRC was unable to attend today's meeting. The recording secretary will notify him of the date of the next meeting, and the interview will be scheduled at that time.

III. REVIEW OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 13, 2005 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Boyd noted a typographical error on the first page. Ms. Butler made a motion to approve the minutes with correction of the noted typographical error. Ms. House seconded this motion. All members present voted to approve the minutes as corrected.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Topic: Request for Affiliation of Crawford Day School/Day Treatment Program and Oyster Point Academy with Tidewater Regional LHRC

Discussion: Ms. Goldstein requested on behalf of First Home Care the affiliation of Crawford Day School/Day Treatment Program and Oyster Point Academy with this committee for the Day Treatment portion of the programs. She stated the population in the day treatment program consists of children and adolescents who are in need of clinical services and an alternate placement from public schools. Mr. Daye stated his office needs a letter regarding this matter. He also stated the Human Rights Policies from The Crawford Day School need to be distributed to committee members.

Action: The Human Rights Policies will be distributed to committee members for review. This item will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

- B. Virginia Freedom of Information Act

Discussion: Mr. Daye reviewed a summary of provisions from the Virginia Freedom of Information Act – October 21, 2005. These include:

- Minutes of the LHRC meetings must be posted on the State web site within three days of approval.
- A draft of the minutes of the most recent meeting must be posted within 10 working days of the meeting.
- A notice of the next meeting, including date, time, and location, must also be posted.
- Any person may photograph, film, record, or otherwise reproduce any portion of a meeting required to be open.

Action: For information.

V. STANDING REPORTS

- A. General Information

The Pines – Ms. Goldstein reported that Dr. Portner and the YMC team are in the process of redefining the Boys Program to make sure the clinical service reflects and better serves the current population of the program. This includes continuing NCI training, hiring a consultant to educate our staff in the prevention of violence, and instituting a dress code for unit staff.

Ms. Goldstein stated she will be leaving her administrative duties at The Pines to become Vice President of Operations at ABS/LINCS (Linking Individuals, Neighborhoods and Clinical Services). The focus of this program is making the

community the entry level for children and adolescents beginning treatment for psychiatric and behavioral disorders, and creating a seamless system of care.

Ms. Goldstein also reported that Heather Fisher (Director Nursing at Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center) will join The Pines as Associate Administrator at the Kempsville campus.

No firm dates for these administrative changes have been determined. A letter will be sent to Mr. Daye outlining these changes.

First Home Care – Ms. Smith reported that First Home Care is in the process of expanding services at Foundation House by opening a new house on the same street. The population of the second house will be older adolescent boys. Ms. Smith requested affiliation of the second house with this committee.

Motion: Ms. Butler made a motion to approve this affiliation. Second was made by Ms. House.

Action: The members voted to approve affiliation of the second Foundation House with this committee. Ms. Smith will send a letter to Mr. Day's office indicating that the second house will come under the existing approved Human Rights Policies.

Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center – Ms. Fisher reported that VBPC is currently exploring options for programs for its all-adult population. These include dual diagnosis, impaired professional, and geriatrics.

B. Seclusion and Restraint Reports

VBPC: Ms. Fisher presented the Seclusion and Restraint Report for VBPC. In September the total number of events was 12; in October there were 16; in November there were 19; and in December there were 11. There were no chemical restraints during this reporting period. The percentage of total events to total patient days for 2005 is 0.71%.

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein presented the Seclusion and Restraint Report for The Pines. For all three campuses in October there were 126 physical holds, 51 mechanical restraints, and 18 seclusions; in November there were 140 physical holds, 100 mechanical restraints, and 20 seclusions; in December there were 118 physical holds, 44 mechanical restraints, and 8 seclusions. In October the incident rate per patient days was .05 for the Kempsville campus, .01 for the Brighton campus, and .02 for the Crawford campus. In November, it was .07 for the Kempsville campus, .01 for the Brighton campus, and .03 for the Crawford campus. In December, it was .05 for the Kempsville campus, .01 for the Brighton campus, and .01 for the Crawford campus. Ms. Goldstein stated the numbers in

December show an improvement in the overall number of restraints/seclusions, and she believes this is the result of continued training of staff.

B. Reports on Structured Living Protocol

VBPC: Ms. Fisher reported five episodes of SLP in October, and zero in November and December. The percentage of episodes per patient days for 2005 is 0.04%.

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein stated there were no episodes of Structured Living during this reporting period.

C. Overview of Allegation Reports

First Home Care: Ms. Smith stated there were no allegations to report from First Home Care.

VBPC: Ms. Fisher reported a total of 31 complaints for the months of September, October, November, and December 2005. All were reported to the Human Rights Office and all were resolved at the local level.

The Pines: Ms. Burrell stated there were a total of 60 allegations reported to the Office of Human Rights during this reporting period. In all instances appropriate action was taken and investigations were completed. In all instances Child Protective Services was notified.

D. CLOSED SESSION

Motion: Ms. Butler made a motion that the committee go into Executive Session, pursuant to Virginia Code 2-2-3711A(4) for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business, namely to review patient information from The Pines Residential Treatment Center and Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center, pursuant to the regulations.

Action: Second was made by Ms. House. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Reconvened in Open Session: Upon reconvening in Open Session, members of the Tidewater Regional LHRC unanimously certified to the best of their knowledge that only public business matters exempt from statutory open meeting requirements and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the Executive Session were discussed in accordance to Virginia Code 2-2-3711A(4).

Action: No recommendations were made.

V. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2006 at 8:30 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Boyd made the motion to adjourn. Ms. Butler seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Evelyn Brown
Recording Secretary

Christopher Boyd
LHRC Member